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A Dark Horse Convention?

At the present time, with the opening of the Republican National Convention at Chicago now only four days away, it seems not unlikely that none of the leading candidates may get the nomination.

Proceeding on the assumption that the most conspicuous candidates will be finally eliminated by the temporary antagonisms growing out of the superheated preliminary contest, speculation will turn readily and perhaps eagerly to what it is the fashion of political lingo to style the dark horse.

Something may be said with propriety of each of the principal figures in this second category; for as the names of the list of favorites pale for the reason stated the qualities and political merits of the dark horse candidates gain proportionately in public interest.

Of the men of the Republican party in the dark horse group who are still young enough to take upon themselves the burdens of this tremendous Presidential job the primacy of mention clearly belongs to CHARLES E. HUGHES, the Republican candidate against Wilson four years ago.

He stands in the very front rank of American jurists and jurists. There is universal admiration of his mentality, universal confidence in the integrity of his character.

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Dr. Butler is a practical man of affairs of enormous ability, a great educator, perfectly well balanced in mental and physical equipment, with a wide world contact with scholars and statesmen and a thorough understanding of every phase of human intelligence and life.

The dark horse list available at Chicago next week includes in addition to the Republicans already mentioned possibilities like HENRY J. ALLEN of Kansas, who has gone further than any other American since Roosevelt in the definition and practical demonstration in the public interest of the great issue of industrial justice.

Governor Coolidge of Massachusetts, who met like a man the strike of the Boston policemen and decided for all time, we hope, the infamy of desertion of their posts by sworn guardians of the peace acting under trade union supergovernment.

ALBERT J. BEVERIDGE of Indiana, with a head clear as a bell on the great questions of the day and a gift of expression unexcelled by any of his contemporaries; JOHN J. FENNING, with the prestige of a successful warrior and that same appeal to the voter which has transferred at least half a dozen Generals from the field of battle to civilian executive duties in the White House; and, last but by no means least, WILLIAM E. BORAH of Idaho, whom we have heard described by impartial authority as the ablest man now in public life.

As to the remote possibilities still in the background, they are numbered by tens of thousands, as every one knows who has faith in the contents of the vast reservoir of American character. We cannot discuss them because they are yet invisible. We cannot name them because they are nameless.

It looks like a dark horse convention, and it remains to present one consideration in connection with the availability of Judge HUGHES and Dr. BUTLER. The vital necessity of carrying New York in November must be apparent to all observers. It is conceivably possible to win the election for the Republican candidates without New York's electoral vote, but such an event is in no way probable.

Notoriety Loving Bill Mason at It Again. BERNARD M. BARUCH's reputation as a man of integrity in the business world, an efficient and private citizen of distinguished position is not liable to suffer from the grotesque attack of WILLIAM E. MASON, Illinois member at large of the House of Representatives and unequalled upstart seeker in Congress.

He first says that Mr. BARUCH, as Chairman of the War Industries Board, "stole \$500,000,000 in copper alone," and then when called upon by Mr. BARUCH to submit his evidence immediately to Congress and to the Attorney-General of the United States refuses to do so now, but declares that he will amend his statement to read that "you and your associates stole \$200,000,000 in copper alone."

We hold no brief for Mr. BARUCH, but we must say that it is a shocking thing for a member of the House, hiding behind his Congress privileges, to make such an assault upon anybody and then decline to back it up. We question that Representative MASON's gross misconduct will be taken seriously by any persons of fair memories or in any intelligent quarters.

But we must declare it is unfortunate that under the circumstances—those circumstances of MASON's Congress immunity—nobody might be able to hold him to a legal accounting. And we must add that it is quite possible that this MASON may imagine that he is only living up to his own notorious reputation as a clownish and scandalous joker.

For in the Senate, in the House of Representatives, or anywhere, BILLY MASON, as he wants everybody to call him, was always that very sort of joker. He was such a joker when at the close of his Senate career he shipped twenty tons of his personal belongings by mail under his Senate postal frank from Washington to his home in Waukegan, Illinois. The joke, as he said it, was that he was credited by official Washington, by the postal service and by the public with dead-beating his furniture, library, clothing, etc., home under his frank, when it turned out to be that he was only franking to Illinois twenty tons of his own speeches.

He was such a joker when he permitted his Senate frank to be used by a champagne agent to send thousands of copies of champagne propaganda through the mails free, for though the champagne man considered it to be an incomparable advertisement of his sparkling wares, it really was also a Billy Mason speech on pure food.

He was such a joker when he lent his picture and name to be used in a glaring patent medicine advertisement; for he wasn't himself sick; he only wanted to promote the sale of the indorsed patent medicine to those that were sick.

He was such a joker when he incessantly, bitterly and unapologetically opposed our going to war against Germany on the ground that he loved peace; for he had been wild to go to war with Spain over Cuba and he

had punched a hotel clerk's nose in Washington for refusing to give a room to the wife of one of his constituents. But there had been very few Spanish votes in his State when he thundered for war in Cuba and there are no votes at all in Washington, where he punched the clerk's nose, while when he howled and struggled against our going to war with the Central Powers there were in Chicago and the neighborhood some three-quarters of a million of persons of German and Austrian birth and parentage.

He was such a joker when his insatiable craving for notoriety he introduced a bill in Congress providing for common law marriages and common law divorces.

Nevertheless, whether he is a joker or whether he is a joke, Representative MASON, after this latest performance, might well be called upon by Congress itself either to put up or shut up.

When Yachts Sail Fastest.

Yachts sailing alone are invariably very speedy. Doubtless the latest Shamrock is going very fast through the waters of Long Island Sound and will prove to be a formidable competitor in the America's Cup races of the coming summer. But no matter how fast she goes when no other yacht is competing with her similar tales will surely be told of the American champions.

A Boston reporter, perched on a pinnacle of vision in Massachusetts, once spied Volunteer rushing into Boston harbor at the astounding rate of seventeen knots an hour. Curiously enough she never approached that speed in any of her contests with Thisbe, yet left that doughty challenger minutes behind on every point of sailing.

On July 20, 1903, Shamrock III, shattered the record for a flight of fifteen miles to windward and return of Sandy Hook. She covered the distance in 2 hours 59 minutes 20 seconds. Her elapsed time on the beat to windward was 1 hour 50 minutes 12 seconds. The approximate distance covered in such a beat is twenty-one miles and the speed was a mile in 5.8 minutes, which is a little better than ten miles an hour. That is very good speed to make on the wind.

Shamrock III, ran home in 1 hour 9 minutes 8 seconds, or at a thirteen knot gait. If ever a yacht had an opportunity to show seventeen knots speed Shamrock III, had it that day up to the moment when bearing the finish she parted her balloon jib top-sail sheet. The figures, however, go to show what a smart yacht really does when helped along by a good breeze and smooth sea.

Meanwhile, until the watch is held on Shamrock IV, as it was on her predecessor, had Shamrock I, pitted against her, no one need be alarmed. For the further information of the curious it may be noted that Shamrock I was beaten in that record breaking race by 1 minute 22 seconds, elapsed time.

Hot Times in the Dry Town.

This will be the first summer completely dominated by official dryness, and if the wise men who for years have been warning us not to drink don't believe when the mercury tried to overflow the tube knew what they were talking about our collective health should be greatly improved.

Critics of prohibition say hard liquor may be obtained by all who have the price, but the convenient dispenser of lager has been thoroughly suppressed. Perhaps the knowledge can get a slug of rye, but nobody can easily find a schooner or a shell of light or dark.

The amber fluid has for years been denounced by health authorities and by physicians as a bad antidote for that overwarm feeling. Don't fill your stomach with cold liquids, they cried; don't drink anything with alcohol in it, they shouted; shun the beer pump, was their slogan. It mattered nothing that husky drymen, longshoremen, firemen, brewery workers and others eminent for strength of limb lapped the stuff up in generous quantities without apparent injury; the plea for abstinence was based on internal and statistical evidence too intricate to be reviewed here. All the ordinary citizen cared about was that the beer tasted good as it went down.

Two cases of heat prostration were reported on Wednesday and more yesterday, although neither day was what a seasoned New Yorker would call hot or humid. Perhaps heat called hot or humid. Perhaps heat called hot or humid. Perhaps heat called hot or humid.

When delegates take checks from the managers of Presidential candidates on the "money back if you want it" basis.

"We have reached the limit in drawing on literature for a supply of thrills," announces Mr. DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS in the course of a discussion on the movies. Having exhausted the possibilities in literature he must now fall back on the thrills of real life.

After all a hand to hand struggle with the bad men in Arizona does not really compare with the evening mob on the uptown subway express.

If Mr. WILSON wanted to exercise a mandate, why did he pick on Armenia when he might have swung one on profiteers?

Sir Robin, M.D. Aristocrat. He is the bird aristocrat. Alert and slim; He tips to you his feathered hat, Gentle and trim. He dances on the velvet lawn Bithmeose and gay. Harbinger of the rosy dawn Of summer's day.

He seems in love with his sweet strain; After the showers He thanks God for the soft, sweet rain, And sings for hours. He is the last to go to rest When shadows creep With velvet gloom from the west—When does he sleep?

The first to greet the rosy dawn, The last to cease His dances and sing the lawn, He seems at ease Where'er he hops to make his way With tiding hat—This bithmeose vigilant and gay Aristocrat.

HOSEA SUTCLIFF KALAN.

PLAYED FOR THE PREVENTION OF LYNCHINGS.

What would come of such a study of disgrace? We would have, to be sure, an interesting and horrifying history of this particular kind of crime; but the result of the investigation, in the way of helping to end lynchings, probably would be nil. Everybody knows the common causes of lynching. Everybody knows why lawless executions of persons, guilty and innocent, go unpunished.

Would the report of a Federal commission and its recommendations have any weight in Mississippi, for instance, where only a year or two ago the Governor refused to lift his hand to stop a lynching on the ground that "it was inevitable"? For years the newspapers of this country have made war on lynchings and lynchings, even in the States where the crime is most popular. Can the report of a commission succeed where the newspapers have had small success?

If it is worth \$100,000 to collect for the information of historians and the cynical inspection of other countries the story of the defiance of the law by the white savages of America, let Senator McCormick have his commission. But civilization does not arrive that way, and only civilization will cure the evil.

A Father Who Confesses That His Child Is Impossible. That Intellectual South African, General SMUTS, has been generally credited with, or accused of, being the father of the League of Nations scheme as it first appeared during the war. Even after his child was adopted, not to say abducted, by another statesman who had access to wider publicity that SMUTS enjoyed the General continued to have a friendly interest in the young creature.

Now, however, we find General SMUTS regarding the League and its relation to Europe from the point of view of a man who has gone back to his own country and who is able to get a less confused notion of things European than was to be had at close range. The esteemed New York Times quotes SMUTS as saying to the London Daily Chronicle's correspondent at Cape Town:

"At San Remo you have conferences going on to resume trade relations with Russia, which are declared to be necessary for the safety of Europe. In Poland you have Marshal PILSUDSKI making war on Russia, though large parts of Poland are starving and typhus is raging. What, then, is the League of Nations doing that it cannot stop this? It ought to have said to Poland: 'This cannot be'; it ought to have prevented these operations, and yet the official answer in the House of Commons is: 'This is not a new war but the old one. Great Britain was not consulted, and it is not a case for the League to interfere.' Who, then, is to interfere? Poland is an ally member of the League of Nations and yet cannot be checked in this enterprise."

In a word, the League doesn't work. It never will work until national ambitions and racial animosities disappear, which will be the first rainy Monday before the millennium. And then the League won't be necessary. Meanwhile it is useful only to the powerful nations whose debt statesmen control the clockwork.

"This country does not wish to be itself," says General SMUTS in the same interview, "but it wants to keep away from European entanglements." That sounds like a wise American talking about the United States, but it is a South African speaking of South Africa. The fact that South Africa is part of the British Empire and that the Empire is committed to the League does not keep SMUTS from saying what is best for the land to which he is devoted.

Danish companies have bought 1,000,000 tons of American coal.—News item.

The American householder who can't get a word from his coal dealer about prices or dates of delivery will envy the Dane.

Commercial honesty is spreading when delegates take checks from the managers of Presidential candidates on the "money back if you want it" basis.

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HOSEA SUTCLIFF KALAN.

DUNRAVEN AND THE CUP.

An Old Yachting Sensation Caused by Charges and Their Sequel. To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: The article on the timing and measurements of our racing yachts by W. J. Henderson, published in your paper on Sunday, was very interesting as well as very instructive. It scarcely seems, as the writer said, that seventeen years have passed since we measured Sir Thomas Lipton's yacht the last time. It being so, when, may I ask, was it that Lord Dunraven attempted to take the America's Cup from us?

Mr. Henderson's article revived memories of the charge Lord Dunraven made of incorrect measuring of his yacht. I wish to forget the long investigation that followed and how THE NEW YORK HERALD presented, as you term it, exclusively the testimony which had been taken behind closed doors. The publication of the testimony shook the yachting world from top to stem. The New York Yacht Club shivered its timbers for fear, for James Gordon Bennett had been its Commodore, and in so being had resurrected the club, which before that day had slipped its moorings so far as activities were concerned.

George L. Riven, who was at the head of the investigating committee of the club, was shocked because Mr. Bennett's testimony before Mr. Riven's committee had given its O.K. for publicity. Vengeance was to be taken and some said the club should at least rebuke if not expel Mr. Bennett.

Although THE HERALD editorially explained how the new was obtained, the identity of the young man who "beat the club to it" was never divulged. The testimony showed that Lord Dunraven's charges were groundless. THE HERALD had performed one of its old time feats with a ten page scoop, and private detectives made reports as to how and when the testimony was obtained as they understood it, and we gobbled the reports, but they too did not measure up correctly. Perhaps Mr. Henderson has the answer. AN AMATEUR SAILOR, New York, June 3.

THE AMERICAN MANDATE.

An Old Diplomat's Observations on Sympathy and Common Sense. To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: Referring to the discussion in regard to an American mandate for Armenia, if Great Britain had kept her solemn promise to Turkey, made in 1915, subsidiary to the German treaty of Berlin of that time, out of which Great Britain got the island of Cyprus for certain specific purposes, there would probably be no acute Armenian question to-day. Indeed, if Great Britain had fulfilled her obligations to Turkey under the special treaty of 1878 Germany would probably never have obtained a foothold in Turkey, because Bismarck said very plainly at the Congress of Berlin in 1878: "The whole Balkan question is not worth to Germany the bones of one Pomeranian grenadier."

The sympathy of the United States goes out to Armenia, but our duty to ourselves demands non-interference in the affairs of Near Eastern Europe, and for any and every reason common sense dictates to us to keep out.

NEW YORK PORT NEEDS.

Carriers Must Be Helped to Meet the Competition of Other Cities. To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: The problem of rates at this port has always been mishandled because the basic principle of cause and effect has been overlooked.

New York is the money center and most of the commerce now being diverted from this port is financed and controlled by New Yorkers, who would prefer to have it here. Our steamship and railroad interests all strive to get here, not from sentimental reasons but practical business reasons.

There are two vital elements which will work either for or against this port, just as we may see fit to act. One is the large and growing port charges, which are the greatest barrier to our growth of a handicraft. The city can remedy this largely by prompt and efficient means to provide terminal facilities that will be cheap for our carriers and handy as well as ample for our growing trade. We must not only build for the present but for the future.

Another question concerning the advantages our rival ports now enjoy, thanks to their having played into their hands, in the basis of rates matter, it must not be forgotten that every one of our many railroads has connections to these other ports and under the law cannot discriminate in our favor, even if it were profitable to do so, which it is not, as the charges are so much above the differentials which we object to as to make net earnings on traffic via other ports more profitable.

Obviously we should make it an object to our carriers to play ball with us for our own sake.

We need no more lawsuits at present, but we do need to apply the rule that one good turn deserves another. The practical help this city can give just now on harbor and terminal matters would be like bread cast upon the waters and return after many days in the shape of what we need most, good and efficient transportation. EXPERIENCE, BROOKLYN, June 3.

HONORABLE SENTIMENT IN THE ARKANSAS LEGION.

To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: Your editorial article of May 18 on "The Bonus Raid on the Treasury" has just come to my attention.

As an American citizen first and a member of the American Legion second I wish to express my genuine admiration of this vigorous and courageous expression.

I wish to tell you that there are a great many ex-service men and women who will also fight this iniquitous proposal to the last ditch. I am going to ask my State to send me to the national convention on the platform of having this body repeat the unwarranted action of the national executive committee, which has exceeded its authority and ignored the mandate of the last convention. J. J. HARRISON, Department Commander, LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 1.

SEEMS A REASONABLE EXPLANATION.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger. We are interested in the annotation of the warden of the Joliet Penitentiary. On the margin of his experience he has written the observation that the "bonus" system is a failure. We had suspected as much. Gentlemen with a reasonable regard for their honor do not, as a rule, get into the penitentiary.

SANTOWER STATE STATISTICS.

From the New York Herald. The average in Moran is twenty cars to one bath tub.

THE CANDIDATE.

Miss Columbus—Wouldn't it save a lot of trouble if we could just slope?

THERMOMETER LORE.

Expert Opinion and Advice of a Veteran Meteorologist. To THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD: The purchaser of a thermometer usually takes one that is offered by the salesman, who assures him that it is good. As a matter of fact neither buyer nor seller has the knowledge which will enable him to pass judgment on its accuracy. Most of the well known makers of commercial thermometers manufacture three grades. The first grade is usually a standard thermometer. The tube is seasoned for about two years, or until molecular changes in the glass have ceased.

Before it is filled it must be tested to ascertain whether or not the bore of the tube is uniform in diameter. The standard is a standard there must be no variation. After it has been filled it is tested at 32 degrees, 62 degrees and 92 degrees. Very minute marks on the side of the tube may be found to indicate these temperatures. The scale is engraved to fit these marks; if they are not on the tube it is not a standard thermometer.

Weather Bureau thermometers are similarly tested for each ten degrees between 2 degrees and 112 degrees. To be a standard the tube must conform to all tests. If the variation is but slight it is put in the second or ordinary grade, and these do not bear the marks described. Others, inaccurate to the extent of not more than two degrees, are in a grade by themselves and do not bear the maker's name. They are frequently sold to jobbers at nominal prices. If the error at ordinary temperatures is marked on each they are serviceable where accuracy is not required.

The term standard is sometimes used in inferior thermometers—instruments that are fraudulently sold. In purchasing a thermometer so marked it is best to look for the test marks at the degrees indicated. The term "Weather Bureau" may be lawfully used on any sort of thermometer, and it is sometimes used to deceive. The designation "U. S. Weather Bureau" should conform to tests prescribed by the United States Weather Bureau.

For all ordinary purposes thermometers of the second grade are sufficiently accurate to be serviceable and dependable. Where precision is required the purchaser should require the maker's certificate which accompanies precision thermometers. A thermometer which does not bear the maker's name is pretty apt to be inaccurate.

Thermometers of the third grade are sold at prices varying from 10 cents to 50 cents; those of the second grade from 75 cents to \$1. Standard thermometers vary in price from \$2 up to \$10. United States Weather Bureau thermometers are not adapted to ordinary service. Where a maximum and minimum thermometer is desired for private use one of the "six" pattern is advisable.

When information concerning thermometers is desired consult the nearest Weather Bureau station and follow the advice given. OBSERVER, MONT VERNON, June 3.

PRIEST EXPOSES SPIRIT TRICKERY.

Father Heredia of Holy Cross Duplicates Spook Phenomena. SHOWS LEVITATION EVEN.

And Raps Indicate That Whiskey and Cigars Are in Unseen World.

Spookish lights, rappings and various forms of hair raising phenomena were in abundance last night in the Fordham University Theatre.

The occasion was not a séance, but the opposite, all of the effects being produced either directly or indirectly by the Rev. Charles M. de Heredia, S. J., of Holy Cross College, for the purpose of exposing the impostures practiced by spiritualistic mediums.

The most tense moment of the evening was when the priest's body appeared rigid and suspended in the air about five feet above the stage. The reverend father carried the scene off exactly, he said, as a professional medium would do it. At its conclusion he appeared faint and crying for help and received aid from two physicians from the audience who tore off his collar, opened the bosom of his garment and acted so seriously that the laughter that had permeated the audience suddenly died away. Then the priest suddenly snapped his fingers at the house and laughed at the joke.

ANSWERS SEALED QUERIES.

Another performance that aroused intense interest consisted of the answering of personal communications by the priest. A number of persons in the audience, including the Rev. Father, wrote their names and certain questions. They then placed these cards in envelopes, which they sealed. They were collected in view of the audience, and apparently deposited in a glass jar on the front of the stage. Then the priest, sitting fifteen feet from the jar, passed into it, crying and calling out the names of the questioners, including the one newspaper reporter, and answered their queries.

There was much fun when he had the reporter to his hands to the back of a chair and then had various persons from the audience stand beside him while the lights were turned out. Each time that the lights were turned on the priest was disclosed in the same attitude, with hands still tied, yet girls that stood at his side had their hats yanked off and flung into the audience by unseen hands and young men had their coats pulled from their backs in the same mysterious manner.

WHISKEY IN THE SPIRIT WORLD.

A table danced for the entertainment of the audience, and other ghostlike shapes flitted about. When the priest asked if there were to be whiskey and cigars in the spirit world three loud raps resounded upon a table in mid-stage, meaning, "Yes, yes, yes."

Of the table board the priest said: "I contend that it is an example simply of the subconscious mind working through unconscious movements. People have told me that they don't move the table, but they do move it. I have seen it, although very often they are not aware of the fact." He then told how at a "table dance" he had asked the board some questions relating to ancient history, and the answers had been grossly erroneous. If you ask the table a personal question, he said, the subconscious mind of the person operating it will try to answer it. If you ask it a difficult historical question, the answer will be produced by any one who is "on to the tricks."

Father Heredia, it was stated, has arranged to give many exhibitions for the purpose of exposing the effects of the spiritualistic medium and to show that the "tricks" are "on to the tricks."

INVITES CONFERENCE ON FARM LABORERS.

Shortage Causes Governor to Call Meeting. ALBANY, June 3.—Cooperation of chambers of commerce, farm bureaus and labor organizations in solving the problem of farm labor is requested in a letter made public to-day by Gov. Smith. A conference at the Capitol to consider the situation and to evolve a satisfactory plan of operation is announced. The letter was sent to the president of the chambers of commerce and to the heads of education, labor, agriculture, highway transport and county farm bureaus and others interested in obtaining help on the farms. It says in part:

"If my information is correct, the present condition of the food supply in our State is such as to call for our serious consideration. While I feel that some assurance by a statement issued from our State Department of Farms and Markets, I nevertheless feel that some action should be taken as a matter of safety looking to the prevention of a shortage which would be a very serious matter for the State.

"There are many handicaps over which we have no control, but the question of the shortage of farm help must be met with, with some degree of success, if a plan could be evolved after a conference. Would you be willing to come to Albany for such a conference in order that we may have the benefit of your advice and suggestion, and in order that a committee may be appointed to carry out such suggestions as seem feasible for the relief of the situation growing out of the difficulty in securing farm help?"

WILSON'S SHEEP SHEARED.

Wool From Prize Flock Goes to Salvation Army. WASHINGTON, June 3.—Under compulsion President Wilson's flock of prize sheep exchanged their winter coats to-day for summer attire. The flock, which now numbers 25 sheep and 12 lambs, yielded 145 pounds of wool, which will be given to the Salvation Army. Last year the yield was presented to the Red Cross.

Hi, the prize ram of the flock, which invaded the White House offices last week, is serving a term of solitary confinement.

WAR DEPT. TO DROP 5,000 CLOCKS.

WASHINGTON, June 3.—Five thousand clerical employees of the War Department will be let out by July 1 because of reductions by Congress in department appropriations. Since Oct. 3 about 1,500 men and women have been dropped from the force, which will stand after July at 7,000, approximately the number provided for in current appropriations.

ARMY BILL PASSED—\$395,000,000.

WASHINGTON, June 3.—The House adopted the conference report on the army appropriation bill to-night by a vote of 127 to 11. The bill carries \$395,000,000.

The Sun AND THE NEW YORK HERALD.

THE SUN was founded by Ben Day in 1833. THE NEW YORK HERALD was founded by James Gordon Bennett in 1855. THE SUN passed into the control of Charles A. Dana in 1868. It became the property of Frank A. Munsey in 1916. THE NEW YORK HERALD remained the sole property of its founder until his death in 1917, when his son, also James Gordon Bennett, succeeded to the ownership of the paper, which continued in his hands until his death in 1